
U.S. Department of the Interior • U.S. Geological Survey

MINERAL INDUSTRY SURVEYS

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LIME IN MAY 1996

Lime producers, operating 108 plants, sold or used about 1.52 million metric tons in May, according to the U.S. Geological Survey. This was 2% below the monthly average for the last 12 months. Lime sold by producers was about 1.37 million tons; this was slightly below the monthly average for the last 12 months. Captive lime used by 22 producers was about 154,000 tons, or 13% below the monthly average for the last 12 months.

Lime sold in May for construction uses, including soil stabilization, totaled about 139,000 tons. Sales of refractory dead-burned dolomite were about 11,100 tons. Sales of lime for environmental uses totaled about 367,000 tons. Sales to the steel-or iron-related markets were about 399,000 tons and sales for other chemical and industrial uses totaled about 450,000 tons.

Principal lime-producing States in May 1996, in descending order, were Ohio, Alabama, Texas, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. These States accounted for 41% of the total output. Kentucky, Illinois, and Missouri were also significant producers, but specific figures were withheld to protect company proprietary data. April exports to three countries were 2,550 tons.

TABLE 1
LIME SOLD BY PRODUCERS IN THE UNITED STATES, BY USE 1/

(Metric tons unless otherwise noted) 2/

Use	May 1996	April 1996	5 Months 1996 3/	5 Months 1995 3/
Quicklime:				
Construction:				
Soil stabilization	40,500	43,600 r/	176,000	142,000
General construction	9,410	5,080	38,100	30,800
Total	49,900	48,700 r/	214,000	173,000
Refractory dolomite	11,100	13,100	60,400	78,600
Environmental	302,000	344,000 r/	1,620,000	1,360,000
Steel, iron related	398,000	381,000 r/	1,930,000	2,000,000
Other Chemical and industrial	409,000	424,000 r/	2,050,000	2,150,000
Total quicklime	1,170,000	1,210,000 r/	5,870,000	5,750,000
Hydrate:				
Construction:				
Soil stabilization	38,200	38,800 r/	176,000	164,000
General construction	50,400	44,900	204,000	205,000
Total	88,600	83,700 r/	380,000	369,000
Environmental	65,600	63,400 r/	331,000	304,000
Steel, iron related	1,600	2,290	8,360	21,500
Other Chemical and industrial	41,000	39,200	199,000	226,000
Total hydrate	197,000	189,000 r/	918,000	920,000
Total construction sales	139,000	132,000 r/	594,000	542,000
Total refractory sales	11,100	13,100	60,400	78,600
Total environmental sales	367,000	407,000 r/	1,950,000	1,660,000
Total steel, iron related sales	399,000	383,000 r/	1,940,000	2,020,000
Total chemical and industrial sales	450,000	464,000	2,240,000	2,370,000
Total sales of lime	1,370,000	1,400,000 r/	6,790,000	6,670,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

3/ May include revisions to prior months' data.

TABLE 2
CAPTIVE LIME USED BY PRODUCERS IN THE UNITED STATES, BY TYPE 1/

(Metric tons unless otherwise noted) 2/

Use	May 1996	April 1996	5 Months 1996 3/	5 Months 1995 3/
Quicklime 4/	141,000	136,000	779,000	883,000
Hydrate	2,890	2,890 r/	11,900	19,800
Refractory dolomite	10,200	13,300	55,100	62,200
Total	154,000	152,000	846,000	965,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

3/ May include revisions to prior months' data.

4/ Excludes refractory dolomite.

TABLE 3
LIME IMPORTED FOR CONSUMPTION IN APRIL 1/ 2/

(Metric tons) 3/

Country of origin	Quicklime	Hydrate	Hydraulic	Total	Year to date
Canada	8,970	1,110	4,510	14,600	63,900
Mexico	--	514	312	826	19,100
Other	--	--	--	--	72
Total	8,970	1,620	4,820	15,400	83,000

1/ Trade statistics are reported for the month previous to that of domestic statistics because of a Department of Commerce effort to improve accuracy by providing an additional 14 days handling.

2/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

3/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 4
LIME SOLD OR USED BY PRODUCERS IN THE UNITED STATES, BY STATE 1/

(Metric tons) 2/

State or territory	May 1996	April 1996	5 Months 1996 3/	5 Months 1995 3/
Alabama	146,000	155,000	718,000	702,000
Idaho, Oregon, and Washington	42,600	44,400	276,000	327,000
Illinois, Indiana, and Iowa	126,000	122,000 r/	683,000	780,000
Kentucky, Tennessee, and West Virginia	202,000	248,000	1,070,000	933,000
Michigan	47,200	46,200 r/	251,000	269,000
Ohio	170,000	167,000	826,000	807,000
Pennsylvania	125,000	128,000	641,000	657,000
Texas	126,000	126,000	598,000	572,000
Virginia	62,400	59,800 r/	301,000	317,000
Wisconsin	45,900	45,900	227,000	229,000
Other 4/	427,000	410,000	2,040,000	2,040,000
Total	1,520,000	1,550,000 r/	7,640,000	7,640,000

r/ Revised.

1/ Data are rounded to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

3/ May include revisions to prior months' data.

4/ Includes Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Puerto Rico, South Dakota, Utah, and Wyoming.

TABLE 5
LIME IN THE UNITED STATES 1/ 2/

(Thousand metric tons) 3/

Period	Consumption 4/	Sold or used	Imports 5/	Exports 5/
1995:				
May	1,580	1,550	28	6
June	1,580	1,560	29	9
July	1,530	1,510	28	7
August	1,610	1,580	35	7
September	1,570	1,540	35	6
October	1,640	1,620	29	6
November	1,640	1,620	23	4
December	1,590	1,570	18	4
1996:				
January	1,590	1,570	28	3
February	1,490	1,470	21	4
March	1,540	1,530	18	9
April	1,560	1,550 r/	15	3
May	NA	1,520	NA	NA

r/ Revised. NA Not available.

1/ Inventories may be estimated as 60% of monthly consumption.

2/ Data are rounded to three significant digits.

3/ To convert metric tons to short tons, multiply metric tons by 1.10231.

4/ Consumption includes sold or used plus imports minus exports, and includes Puerto Rico.

5/ Source: Bureau of the Census.